

**Moffat County Board of County Commissioners  
221 W Victory Way Suite 130 Craig, CO 81625**

**April 18, 2016**

**In attendance,** Chuck Grobe, Chairman; Frank Moe, Vice Chair; John Kinkaid, Board Member; Lila Herod, Moffat County Clerk & Recorder; Ray Beck; Roy Tipton; Rebecca Tyree; Jeff Comstock

**Call to Order  
Pledge/Opening Prayer  
Consent Agenda**

Kinkaid made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of:

- a) Approved the minutes from April 12, 2016.
- b) Approved Resolutions 2016-38 and 2016-39 payment of payroll warrants for the payroll ending April 8, 2016 in the amounts of \$201,821.64 and \$465,522.27.
- c) Approved Resolution 2016-37 transfer of payment of warrants for the month of April 2016 in the amount of \$465,871.32.
- d) Approved the Loudy Simpson Park hay lease contract extension with Don Bohrer.
- e) Approved the sand and gravel lease for the Tuttle Pit.

Moe seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. See attached.

**General Discussion**

General discussion was held among the Board:

- ✓ Kinkaid discussed the mine tours with Assistant Interior Secretary, Janice Schneider. He also reported that he and Jeff Comstock discussed other issues with her as well, such as, the Gateway South Transmission Line, sage grouse, Trapper and ColoWyo Coal environmental assessment, Swinging Bridge easement, etc.

Noelle Leavitt Riley present.

- ✓ Ray Beck reported there will be a Colorado pipeline discussion at the Fairgrounds tomorrow night. He also announced community leaders will be attending the Energy and Environmental Symposium on Wednesday and Thursday in Rifle, and the CDPHE forum will meet at the High School on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Moe announced Better City's will be here April 26-28 to work on the economic assessment. They will host several open house meetings:  
Dinosaur- 12:30-2:00 on Tuesday April 26 at the Dinosaur Library  
Craig-6-7:30 on Tuesday April 26 at the Fairgrounds Pavilion  
Maybell- 6-7:30 on Wednesday April 27 at the Maybell Community Center.  
They will also attend the Local Marketing District meeting on Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> at the City of Craig. See attached schedule.

### **Natural Resources- Jeff Comstock**

Comstock reviewed a comment letter from Mesa County opposing the BLM's proposed waste prevention, production subject to royalties and resource conservation rule. Mesa County has requested several neighboring counties as well as Moffat County's support and signature on this letter.

The concerns are with the proposed rules citing it would result in unnecessary new costs and burdens, without compensating benefits to domestic oil and gas producers. Passage of the rule would hinder growth to the Western Slope of Colorado's economy.

Moe made a motion to sign and support the Mesa County comment letter to the Department of Interior concerning the BLM's proposed rules on waste prevention, production subject to royalties and resource conservation rules. Kinkaid seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. See attached.

### **Department of Social Services- Dollie Rose**

Rose announced this is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Moe made a motion to approve the minutes from March 22, 2016. Kinkaid seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. See attached.

Department updates:

- ✓ The next Community Forum will be held May 11 from 9-10:30 at CNCC Campus.
- ✓ Rose discussed foster care recruitment and reported there are now four certified foster homes within the County and three are in the process.
- ✓ Residential day treatment program partnership between the Moffat County School District and Mind Spring.

Moe made a motion to approve the electronic transactions for the month of February 2016 in the amount of \$329,287.88. Kinkaid seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. See attached.

Rose reviewed the monthly reports for foster care, application totals, County budget report and CSTAT Dashboard. See attached.

- ✓ Caseloads and applications have increased 19% from last year.
- ✓ Employment First program has been very successful.
- ✓ Child Welfare division is short two positions, but applications are being received.

### **Road & Bridge- Linda DeRose**

There was discussion regarding Craig Cleanup Day which will be held in May. The City has inquired if the County will be accepting tires at the Landfill this year.

Last year there were 1,475 tires collected. In 2014 there were 1,906 and in 2013 there were 2,800. DeRose attributes the decrease to the success of the cleanup program. The cost is approximately \$6,000. The Landfill will also need to remain open on Saturday and Sunday of the designated weekend so there will be additional expense of employee overtime.

Moe made a motion to continue accepting tires for free at the Landfill during Craig Cleanup days for residents only and to approve the extra Landfill hours. Kinkaid seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **Memorial Hospital- Jennifer Riley**

Riley requested the Boards support of the Memorial Hospital application for the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Loan and signature on the certification of significant community support.

The new loan structure will provide significant savings to the Hospital and 5% decrease in the interest rate alone. Three letters of community support are required for the loan. The closing date has been set for January 2017 and the term of the loan is 35 years.

Kinkaid made a motion to sign and approve the certification of significant community support for the Memorial Hospital USDA loan application. Moe seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. See attached.

#### **Human Resources Department- Lynnette Siedschlaw**

There was brief discussion regarding the position for Director of Weed and Pest Management Department.

Kinkaid made a motion to hire Jessica Counts as the new Director of Weed and Pest Management. Moe seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.0

#### **Board of Health Meeting- Charity Neal**

Charity Neal, Tom Soos, Scott Cowman and Walt Vanatta present.

Tom Soos gave an update on the spill in Powder Wash and fire that is still under investigation.

Neal introduced Scott Cowman as the new Environmental Health Director in Routt County.

Cowman reported Routt County conducts its own consumer product program and health inspections.

Rebecca Tyree present.

Charity Neal reviewed the Yampa Valley Health Assessment. Yampa Valley Medical Center, Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association and the Memorial Hospital have partnered on the Community Health Needs Assessment project.

Surveys and forums were conducted among community leaders, residents and community members and the data analyzed. The challenges identified time and again were mental health, substance abuse, suicide, housing, child care, cost of living, and transportation issues.

Neal reviewed the community survey demographics and results. Recommendations were made to continue the collaborative partnership, expand and strengthen mental health and substance abuse systems, bolster primary and behavioral health integration, recognize health is more than health care, and engage health care consumers. See attached.

The Community Needs Assessment information will eventually evolve into the Public Health Improvement Plan.

**Updates:**

- ✓ CDPHE County health rankings: Moffat County showed improvement in overall health outcomes, which are now 31 of 60.
- ✓ WIC program: 60-70% of the regional program is from Moffat County.
- ✓ Additional marijuana funding has been approved for public health departments. The State Department of Health has indicated VNA is a non-profit and will have to wait for the competitive grant process, rather than direct funding. Lisa Brown is working on this issue.
- ✓ Safe Care Program - In home parent education program for at risk families with children under five.

**Intergovernmental Agency Meeting**

Mike Bauman, Mark Faust, Roy Tipton, Jeff Comstock, Patty Luby, Hunter Seim, Kent Walter; Jerod Smith, Chris Rhyme, Ron Dellacroce, Ray Beck, Patti Snidow

**Colorado State Land Board- Jerod Smith reporting:**

- ✓ Stewardship action plan. Review of leases including sage grouse habitat plan.

**Colorado Parks and Wildlife- Mike Bauman reporting:**

- ✓ Sage grouse lek counts- 30% increase per three year period during the last nine years
- ✓ Hard winter, but minimal damage and no impact on big game licenses.
- ✓ Good hunting season average harvest.
- ✓ Game management plans and habitat improvements.

**Dinosaur National Monument- Mark Foust reporting:**

- ✓ Monument visitation increase 15%- 100 year anniversary
- ✓ Utah Mighty Five program – Dinosaur included in tourist film “Beyond the Crowd”
- ✓ Economic study
- ✓ Centennial Year for National Parks-“Every Kid in a Park” program

- ✓ River permit program in great demand. There were over 3,000 applications for 300 permits.
- ✓ Shared information with Melody Villard - MCTA regarding Gateway Conference and RTCA information (River Trails and Conservation Assistance) to help with trail development.
- ✓ Vernal Information Center- joint interagency information center
- ✓ Working with Artesia Fire Department training, etc.
- ✓ Operations building in Dinosaur has been condemned for two years and working on a five year plan for reconstruction.
- ✓ Working with the Yampa River Legacy project on Leafy Spurge
- ✓ Deer Lodge Park Road under phase II construction resurfacing the road.
- ✓ Working on a National Park Service grant for grazing management plan
- ✓ Planning a Yampa River trip for the Commissioners next year.

**Yampa River State Park- Ron Dellacroce reporting:**

- ✓ Update on the Elk Head fish recovery meeting last week.
- ✓ Working on the installation of the netting and will draw the lake down approximately 30 feet. There will be changes to the fishery.
- ✓ The State has scheduled a Fish Tournament at Elk Head early June, and the Bass Anglers will hold a tournament the following week. This will help with fish management.
- ✓ Infrastructure- A shop is being built at Elk Head this summer. Funding has been received for 30 site campground on the west side of the lake. Eight miles of trail has been constructed. New docks.
- ✓ The boat ramp will open Memorial Day weekend.
- ✓ Seasonal workers have all been hired and all of them are local.
- ✓ River rafting – boat ramp and launch being installed at Hayden campground.
- ✓ Leafy Spurge project partnership.
- ✓ Dellacroce announced he has retired and the new management position will be hired.

**BLM White River- Kent Walter reporting:**

- ✓ Inventory and travel management plans. Alternative plans will be released to cooperating agencies in May. Public release in August.
- ✓ Sage grouse decision implementation meetings.
- ✓ Fire treatment and prescribed fires. Update of fire management plans.
- ✓ Oil and gas monitoring and enforcement. Permitting processes.
- ✓ Tribal consultation
- ✓ Wild horse management- gathered 167 out of West Douglas herd. Planning fencing project of 150 miles.

**BLM Little Snake-Hunter Seim reporting:**

- ✓ Seim is the acting field manager. He introduced Patty Luby and Chris Rhyne. Applications and interviews are underway for the new field manager.
- ✓ Travel management plans. TMA1 should be complete by the end of the year. TMA2 is underway.

- ✓ Wild horse management plan- Working with Sand Wash Team darting program to mitigate reproduction. 20% success rate. Great Escape Mustang Sanctuary agreement to adopt horses. Fall gather being planned.
- ✓ Energy Gateway South and Transwest transmission line update- final EIS waiting approval.
- ✓ Sage grouse federal meetings with state field offices to relay instruction memorandums and policies on decisions. Prioritizing grazing permit renewals, and thresholds for grazing management.
- ✓ Cross Mountain weed management – working with County weed partnership. Plans to re-fence the perimeter.
- ✓ Fire management plans. Hiring seasonal workers.

**USDA Rural Development–Pattie Snidow reporting:**

- ✓ Power Initiative- regional SET process. Better City economic assessment will benefit from this work. Sub plans indicate this region per capita has more patents than any other area in Colorado. This creativity will help with diversification. Implementation will be critical!
- ✓ Broadband and Cool and Connected program working on technology advances.
- ✓ Worker Cooperative program- allows aging business community to sell business to employees.

**Moffat County- Roy Tipton reporting:**

- ✓ Swinging Bridge rehabilitation project. Applied for Energy Impact grant and working on long term easement agreement with Fish and Wildlife. Matching grant funds of \$100,000 will be solicited from cooperating agencies. Construction would not begin prior to 2019.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Submitted by: Lila Herod, County Clerk and Recorder

Approved by:

*Charles A. Tipton*  
*Fred A. Moore*  
*John A. Tipton*

Approved on:

*April 26, 2014*

Attest by:

*Lila Herod*

